

***Remarks***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-16 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 13 being the independent claims. Claims 17-21 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. No new claims are sought to be added, and no claims have been amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

In light of these amendments, all claims to the invention invented by Robert Sicilia have been deleted. Thus, the deletion of Robert Sicilia as an inventor is respectfully requested. Submitted herewith is a \$130.00 processing fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i), as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b).

Robert Sicilia was the common inventor to the parent application. With the removal of Robert Sicilia as an inventor, the present application no longer properly claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/369,564 filed February 21, 2003. As such, the reference to this priority claim in the specification at paragraph [0010] has been deleted.

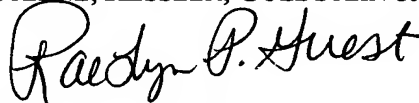
Also submitted herewith is a supplemental application data sheet to correct the inventorship and to remove the priority claim in the bibliographic information associated with the present application.

***Conclusion***

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Rae Lynn P. Guest  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 53,482

Date: 11/19/2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600